

FESTIVALS

Medieval and traditional Transylvania - code Hu4.2RoFe

Days of joy! Do not miss the festivals. At the end of July, *Treasure of Transylvania* tour takes you to the *Medieval Festival in Sighisoara* and to the annual *Shepherds Meeting on Mount Jina*. Watch as long gone times come to life on the streets of the citadel! Witness the mastery of the shepherds and the competition of the craftsmen on the blessed Mount Jina!

Here is how the schedule of the tour **Treasure of Transylvania** (Hu3.2RoCu) changes in order to include the festivals:

MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL IN SIGHISOARA
DAY 6 Brasov - Sighisoara - Biertan - Medias - Sibiel

You will discover today that an old medieval citadel is the ideal place for a festival! From Brasov we drive across the beautiful Saxon area with exquisite houses and fortified churches and arrive in Sighisoara, the most beautiful, best preserved and still inhabited Citadel in Europe. The medieval festival in Sighisoara is one of the largest in Romania, with more than 20 000 attendants. Stages are set in every plaza of the citadel. There are theatre shows, concerts on all stages. In addition to these, amateurs set their on acts in every corner. Painters and sculptors expose their works on the ground, body painters offer their services and people ware fantastic costumes. The Citadel remained a 'magic shelter' for the lovers who want to protect themselves against the indiscreet eye and hide in the narrow streets or in the "Pupils' Covered Stairs". With a lot of memories and definitely some regrets we leave Sighisoara behind, drive to Biertan to take a look at the Fortified Church, then travel across Medias and stop in Sibiel for accommodation in country-inns.

SHEPHERDS MEETING ON MOUNT JINA:
DAY 7 Sibiel - Jina - Sibiu - Arad

From Sibiel we drive to Mount Jina to witness a more traditional festival. The shepherds around Sibiu are ready to party and have already put the "Balmos" on the fire (absolutely delicious traditional food). They have whistled the gathering on Mount Jina, where the legend says that Romanians retired avoiding the invaders guided by fairies and "haiduci" (outlaws). According to the tradition, the shepherds meet on Mount Jina to organize contests of milking the sheep, clip the wool, making cheese and balmosh. The most skilful leather dressers come to Jina. They are renowned for the doublets and sheepskin coats they make. There are other craftsmen who come as well: hatters, shoe makers. Preserve the rustic atmosphere in the afternoon drive to Sibiu to visit the open-air Village Museum. Travel to Arad for accommodation.



Hora at Prislop - code Hu4.1RoFe

Days of joy! Do not miss the festival. *Pearls of Northern Transylvania* tour takes you to the annual festival "*Hora la Prislop*", celebrated on the third Sunday of August. A celebration of the traditional popular skills, songs and costumes -Transylvania's soul!

Here is how the schedule of the tour **Pearls of Northern Transylvania** (Hu3.1RoCu) changes in order to include the festival:

DAY 2 Sunday - "Hora at Prislop"

It's now time to celebrate, Transylvanian way! We begin our day feeling very alive and happy about it with a visit of the Merry Cemetery in Sapanta. You'll find out how a cemetery can be merry by reading the funny verses carved on the crosses. Since we wormed up we're ready to party. We drive to Prislop Pass to take part to "Hora la Prislop" festival. The event gathers the inhabitants of the North of Romania, not only Transylvania, but also Moldova and Bucovina. "Hora" is the name of a round group dance signifying togetherness and joy. The scene placed on the top of the mountain is surrounded by the booths of the popular craftsmen and of the traders who do not miss the opportunity to speak about their merchandise. In this festival you will find out what people in Transylvania mean by "celebrating " not only on stage but also in all corners of the mountain groups of dancers and singers are showing off to each other in a friendly manner. We also spend the evening in a rustic atmosphere drive to leud for accommodation in lovely country-inns!

Entrees to:

Bears Cave in Pietroasa, Salt Mines in Turda, Turzii's Gorges, Teleki Palace, Lazarea Castle, Lazarea Monastery, Ciucului's Sekler Museum in Miercurea Ciuc, The Museum of Mineral Water in Tusnad, Peles Castle, Bran Castel, Rasnov Peasant Citadel, Fortified Church in Biertan, Village Museum in Sibiu.

TIPS:

Day 6: In Sighisoara you can enjoy your lunch in a special location" Vlad Dracul's House" Restaurant, the place where Vlad Dracul, the father of the one who bares the stigma of the bloody count Dracula, was born. It would be such a pity to miss the famous Clock Tower of Sighisoara, with its daily changing figurines which announce the hour, counts de minutes of the painful waiting until the arrival of the loved one.

You can also visit here the Medieval Weapon Collection and the Torture Room.

Entrees to:

Merry Cemetery in Sapinta, the famous church in Bogdan Voda, Craftsman Workshop, The Monument in Moisei, Voronet Monastery, Moldovita Monastery, Sucevita Monastery, Suceava Citadel, Village Museum in Suceava, Museum of Woodcraft in Cimpulung Moldovenesc, Hunting Museum in Vatra Dornei, Dracula's coffin, Dogarilor Tower in Bistrita, Art Museum in Cluj, Salt Mines in Turda, Turzii's Gorges Reservation, Ethnographic Museum in Lupsa, Bears Cave.

Dear Guest

It is a pleasure for **Transylvania Live** to invite you in a Romanian adventure specially conceived for you! Our products are designed to show you everything what there's to see: castles and medieval cities, picturesque villages, museums, and introduce you to unique people and traditional events.

Our main target is to have you enjoy everything by the same passion that Romanians do!

***Yours lively enthusiastic,
Transylvania Live team***



Regarding individual requests we can adjust to your wishes and offer you a tailor made trip.

Our knowledge of Transylvania and Romania allows us to design some of the best **Tailor-Made Itineraries**. Choose to travel as a couple or in a small group, we will build your tailor-made holiday to give you a superb travel experience, allowing real insight in a particular region, such as Maramures, Bucovina, Danube Delta, Black Sea, Seklers land, Saxon land, at a time that suits you, to your own comfort levels and within your own budget. Whether luxury or adventure, leisure or active trips, we can design any itinerary to suit both your taste and budget!

For the tours with guaranteed departures in 2006 we begin our Romanian experience mostly from Budapest Airport because:

- It offers excellent low cost travel from U.K. (the direct U.K.-Bucharest flights are more expensive, there's a difference of 150-200 EURO comparing to U.K.- Budapest flights).
- Is the most attractive way to travel in comfort to Transylvania, avoiding the complication of there being no nearer direct flights from the U.K. to this region of Romania.
- It provides the possibility of visiting the western Hungary, come in contact with Hungarian atmosphere and visit the capital, Budapest.

The following lines help you choose the Romanian holiday that fits you the best!

Hiking tours:

Conquer Transylvania's Alps (Ro6.2RoHi) Tour is the best choice for you if:

- you love adventure and your physical condition allows you to walk 15-20 km/day at over 2000 m altitude and a level difference of 1000-1500 m/day, and you're able to personally carry your baggage for the entire tour
 - you love spectacular mountain sights and the feeling of a night spent in a mountain hut surrounded by the wild nature
- A maximum of 16 tourists assures the group dynamic.

Guaranteed departures:

08 June; 07 July; 04 August (8 nights - 9 days tour)

Attention, this tour is different from the others because the meeting point is Medias, Romania, the tour ends in Sinaia. The transfer routes from/to Budapest by train can be found on the tour page.

Discover western and northern Carpathians (Hu6.1RoHi) Tour is the best choice for you if:

- you're in a good physical shape
 - you love nature and the walks on mountain paths followed by a night of relaxation in decent accommodations
- The baggage transportation is provided by the microbus for the entire tour

A maximum of 14 tourists assures the group dynamic.

Guaranteed departures:

24 June; 22 July; 19 August (7 nights - 8 days tour)



The following packages have the best selection of hotels in every location.

Sightseeing Tours are your best choice if:

- your desire is to gain a first-time impression of larger geographic areas.
- you enjoy spectacular landscape and you like to visit famous or interesting sights.

The group is maximum of 48/PAX

Guaranteed Departures:

- **Best of Transylvania (Hu5.1RoSi)**: 10 June (7 nights - 8 days tour)
- **Best of Romania (Hu5.2RoSi)**: 12 August (9 nights - 10 days tour)

Romantic Holidays for couples are your best choice if:

- You like to socialize as a couple, to come in contact with similar experience instead of being isolated in your own family car. It's more than discovering a country; it's discovering yourselves while visiting Romania.
- You take your romantic attitude with you. The tours appeal equally to castles lovers, wildlife enthusiasts or couples who want to enjoy good quality time together. Everything from the accommodation places, special activities and major tourist attraction are chosen to better match the romantic holiday idea. These trips are designed for all ages. Due to socialization reasons the minimum number for which each tour was conceived is 5 couples and the maximum is 13 couples.

Departures:

- **Transylvanian Heart Beats (Hu2.1RoMa)**: 02 June; 14 July (10 nights - 11 days tour), tour structured on the northern part of Transylvania offering a small view of northern Moldavia
- **Transylvanian Love Colours (Hu2.2RoMa)**: 10 June; 29 July (10 nights- 11 days tour), tour structured on the southern part of Transylvania offering a small view of southern Romania

Cultural Tours are your best choice if:

- you are interested in Transylvania's customs, legends, beliefs and superstitions passed by oral tradition and transmitted to you by our guide
- you enjoy getting acquainted with a place through a longer period of time
- you enjoy exploring rural areas, outdoor festivals, the houses of famous artists, craftsmen and museums or landscapes made famous in literature.

The group is maximum of 26/PAX

Guaranteed Departures:

- **Pearls of Northern Transylvania (Hu3.1RoCu)**: 08 June (7 nights - 8 days tour), 19 August - this August tour takes you to *Hora la Prislop* Festival (7 nights-8 days tour)
- **Treasure of Transylvania (Hu3.2RoCu)**: 31 June (7 nights - 8 days tour), 24 June - this June tour takes you to Medieval Festival in Sighisoara (7 nights - 8 days tour)

Explanations:

Items marked in the tours as **Tips** represent our suggestion for a special activity or event particular for an area, that you shouldn't miss, arranged with individual accounts.

Items marked in the tours as **Optional** are available at a small extra cost but not included because it will not appeal to everyone.

Items marked in the tours as **Module** are available only if the entire group choose them, arranged with individual accounts.